

WASHINGTON STATE

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER

MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER - 2005

CATEGORY	2005	2004	YTD 05	YTD 04
CSEPP INCIDENTS	7	5	78	51
DOE INCIDENTS	0	0	7	8
FIRE	11	13	352	373
HAZMAT	190	161	2120	1959
OTHER	25	13	328	261
911 OUTAGES	5	6	43	33
SAR	45	37	586	591
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
WEATHER	7	9	77	75
CGS INCIDENTS	0	0	2	1
ESAR (NOT INCL IN TOTAL)	(2)	(0)	(58)	(58)
TOTAL	290	244	3593	3352

LEGEND

CSEPP	Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program
DOE	Department of Energy, Hanford Site
SAR	Search and Rescue Missions
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Incidents
WEATHER	Weather Incidents (throughout state, i.e., Flood, High Winds, and Snow)
CGS	Columbia Generating Station
FIRE	Forest Fire Incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, i.e., Tsunami, Earthquake, Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, Bomb Threat, etc...
911	911 Service Outages

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- On December 3, the National Weather Service issued a series of weather warnings for heavy snow fall in many counties throughout western and eastern Washington. Significant amounts of snow fell over night mainly in the mountains before the weather warnings were terminated later the same day.

WASHINGTON STATE
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER
MONTHLY REPORT
DECEMBER - 2005

- On December 5, a search was opened by King County for a missing skier in the vicinity of Stevens Pass. Resources were coordinated from Olympic Mountain Rescue, Tacoma Mountain Rescue and Everett Mountain Rescue as well as certified skiers from Pierce, Snohomish and Chelan Counties. Information obtained by the Sheriff's Department later in the day indicated the subject may have hitchhiked to the home of a friend. The Sheriff's Office made contact with the subject and closed the mission.
- On December 14, Snohomish County Sheriff's Department opened a search for a 70 year-old man who walked away from an adult family care home in Federal Way. Search dogs were immediately coordinated from King County to assist in the effort to locate the man who was not dressed for the weather conditions. The SAR was terminated at 2300 hours however the man was not found.
- On December 15, King County Sheriff's Department opened an incident for an unknown white powder which was "spread" around the Sounder Rail Train Station in Auburn. The white powder was liberally sprinkled around some trees and grass areas of the train station prompting local law enforcement to call the fire department to analyze the material to determine exactly what it was. The fire department said they were unable to determine this because all they had was a field testing kit which would come up "positive" for Anthrax if the material was flour for instance. The Department of Ecology was called to assist with the identification of the material as local police placed yellow barrier tape around the areas contaminated with the powder substance. The material was determined to be harmless after analysis by the Department of Ecology.
- On December 16, Mason County reopened the search for a 52 year-old diabetic male who was first reported missing on November 13th and never located. Additional ground searchers and tracking dog teams were coordinated to facilitate this search to locate this individual. The missing man was located around noon the next day deceased.
- On December 17, the National Weather Service in Seattle issued a High Wind Warning for Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce & Lewis Counties through 2200 hrs on 12/18/05 and also a Winter Storm Watch for: Skamania, Clark, Cowlitz & Wahkiakum Counties through Tuesday morning on 12/20/05. The warning was terminated on December 21st as the last of the high winds decreased.

WASHINGTON STATE
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER
MONTHLY REPORT
DECEMBER - 2005

- On December 21, the National Weather Service in Seattle issued a Gale Warning for the northern inland waters of western Washington and the north and central coast through tomorrow afternoon (12/22/05). Additionally a Flood Warning was issued for the Skokomish River in Mason County. Heavy rains over the south slopes of the Olympic Mountains will cause widespread flooding of pasture lands with water flooding quickly over East Bourgault Road and Skokomish Valley Road.
- On December 23, the National Weather Service issued a Flood Watch for all rivers and streams flowing off the Olympics and North Cascades in Western Washington. Rivers flowing off these mountains could go over flood stage late tonight or on Saturday, December 24th. The Flood Watch was terminated at 0805 p.m. on December 25th as rains subsided throughout the area.
- On December 25, the National Weather Service Portland issued a High Wind Warning for Pacific County. Sustained winds of 40 mph with gusts to 60 mph expected until 1800 hrs 12/25/05. The high wind warning was lowered in the early evening hours the same day.
- On December 26, the National Weather Service issued a High Wind Watch for the Washington Coast and northern inland waterways for: Pacific, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Clallam, San Juan, Island, Whatcom, Skagit and Snohomish Counties. Winds of 40 MPH with gusts to 60 MPH are expected starting late tonight through early Tuesday morning. The High Wind Watch was lowered for the inland waterways late in the evening hours of the 26th however the High Wind Warning remained in effect for the entire Washington Coast through Tuesday morning 12/27/05.
- On December 28, the National Weather Service issued a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River in Mason County. This was downgraded later in the day.
- On December 29, the National Weather Service issued a Winter Storm Watch for Chelan, Douglas and Okanogan Counties for potentially heavy snow. Additionally, a Winter Storm Warning was issued for the East Slopes of the Central and Southern Cascades (Yakima, Kittitas, Klickitat and Counties), six to 12 inches of snow expected from midnight tonight to midnight Friday, December 30.

WASHINGTON STATE
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER
MONTHLY REPORT
DECEMBER - 2005

- On December 29, the National Weather Service issued a Heavy Snow Warning for eight Eastern Washington Counties. Regional snowfall totals for 4 to 6 inches in the valleys and 6 to 10 inches in the mountains. Heavy Snow Warnings continued to be issued for the Eastern Slopes of the Cascades and Eastern Washington Counties as well as the NW Blue Mountains.
- On December 30, the National Weather Service issued a Small Stream and Urban Flood Advisory for the Southeast I-5 corridor and the western portion of the Columbia Gorge. There were Flood Watches issued for rivers in Jefferson, Grays Harbor, Mason, King, Pierce, Thurston and Lewis Counties through Friday, December 30th.
- On December 30, the National Weather Service issued a Flood Warning for the Columbia River at Longview.
- On December 31, a High Wind Watch for the Washington Coast and a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River was issued by the National Weather Service. The Flood Warning for the Skokomish was downgraded to a Flood Advisory late on December 31.

For the month of December 2005 the SEOO's:

- Issued 103 warnings to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies
- Issued 33 warnings to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies
- Conducted 908 notifications to state agency liaisons for imminent or occurring emergencies
- Coordinated 10 resources for search, rescue, recovery and response operations
- Issued 2 Evidence Search Mission Requests
- Participated in 23 exercises of which 14 were vessel spill drills
- Made 1229 and answered 1566 telephone calls

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EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER
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- Conducted 1891 National Warning System Tests, conducted 249 Comprehensive Emergency Management Network (CEMNET) radio tests. (connects all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console)
- Conducted 52 dedicated line tests with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)
- Conducted 4 dedicated line tests with the Department of Energy, Hanford Site (DOE)
- Conducted 5 dedicated line tests with the Columbia Generating Station (CGS)